

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a copy of Applicants' claims that identifies language being added with underlining ("___") and language being deleted with strikethrough ("—"), as is applicable:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
storing a description of a first frame wherein said description comprises:
(1) a frame length; and
(2) a first transmission rate;
receiving a first portion of said first frame, ~~frame wherein the length of~~ said first portion having a first length ~~is~~ less than said frame length, said first length ~~and is~~ based on said first transmission rate;
queuing said first portion of said first frame;
transmitting said first portion of said first frame at said first transmission rate into a shared-communications channel; and
receiving a second portion of said first frame after said transmission of said first portion has started.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said description further comprises a second transmission rate and at least one form of modulation.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein said at least one form of modulation comprises orthogonal frequency division multiplexing.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising queuing said second portion of said first frame, ~~frame wherein the length of~~ said second portion having a second length ~~is~~ less than said frame length, said second length ~~and is~~ based on said first transmission rate and a ~~the~~ time required to receive said second portion.

5. (Currently Amended) An apparatus A~~apparatus~~ comprising:

an interface controller for:

- (1) receiving a first portion of a first frame; and
- (2) receiving a second portion of said ~~a~~ first frame;

a memory for:

(1) storing a description of said first frame wherein said description comprises a frame length and a first transmission rate; and

(2) queuing said first portion of said first frame in a queue having a ~~wherein the~~ size of ~~said queue~~ is based on said first transmission rate and a ~~the~~ time required to receive said first portion; and

a transmitter for transmitting said first portion of said first frame at said first transmission rate into a shared communications channel.

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 5 wherein said description further comprises a second transmission rate and at least one form of modulation.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said at least one form of modulation comprises orthogonal frequency division multiplexing.

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 5 wherein said memory is also for queuing said second portion of said first frame, frame wherein the length of said second portion having a length ~~is~~ less than said frame length, said length ~~and is~~ based on said first transmission rate and a ~~the~~ time required to receive said second portion.

9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 5 wherein said transmitter operates in accordance with ~~the~~ IEEE 802.11 air interface protocol.

10. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

storing a first description wherein said first description comprises:

(1) a first frame length; and

(2) a first transmission rate;

transmitting a queued portion of a first frame at said first transmission rate into a shared-communications channel;

removing said queued portion of said first frame wherein said removal is based on said first frame length;

storing a second description wherein said second description comprises:

(1) a second frame length; and

(2) a second transmission rate;

queuing a first portion of a second ~~frame, frame wherein the length of said first portion~~ having a first length ~~is~~ less than said second frame length, said first length ~~and is~~ based on said first transmission rate; and

transmitting said first portion of said second frame at said second transmission rate into said shared-communications channel.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein said first transmission rate and said second transmission rate are different.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 further comprising queuing a second portion of said second ~~frame, frame wherein the length of said second portion~~ having a second length ~~is~~ less than said second frame length, said second length ~~and is~~ based on said second transmission rate.

13. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a memory for:

(1) storing a first description wherein said first description comprises a first frame length and a first transmission rate;

(2) storing a second description wherein said second description comprises a second frame length and a second transmission rate; and

(3) queuing a first portion of a second ~~frame, frame wherein the length of said~~ first portion having a first length is less than said second frame length, said first length and is based on said first transmission rate;

a transmitter for:

(1) transmitting a queued portion of a first frame at said first transmission rate into a shared-communications channel; and

(2) transmitting said first portion of said second frame at said second transmission rate into said shared communications channel; and

a processor for removing said first description and said queued portion of said first frame wherein said removal is based on said first frame length.

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13 wherein said first transmission rate and said second transmission rate are different.

15. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 13 wherein said memory is also for queuing a second portion of said second ~~frame, frame wherein the length of said second portion~~ having a second length is less than said second frame length, said second length and is based on said second transmission rate.

16. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 13 wherein said transmitter operates in accordance with the IEEE 802.11 air interface protocol.

17. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

storing a first description of a first frame wherein said first description comprises:

- (1) a first frame length;
- (2) a first transmission rate; and
- (3) a first class of service associated with ~~which~~ said first frame ~~is associated~~;

queuing a first portion of said first frame in a first queue wherein said first portion of said first frame comprises m octets, wherein m is a positive integer, ~~and wherein the~~ with a value of ~~m~~ is based on said first transmission rate;

transmitting said first portion of said first frame at said first transmission rate into a shared-communications channel;

receiving a second portion of said first frame after said transmission of said first portion has started;

storing a second description of a second frame after said storing of said first description wherein said second description comprises:

- (1) a second frame length;
- (2) a second transmission rate; and
- (3) a said second class of service associated with ~~which~~ said second frame ~~is~~

~~associated~~;

queuing a portion of said second frame wherein said portion of said second frame comprises n octets, wherein n is a positive integer, ~~and wherein the~~ with a value of ~~n~~ is based on said second transmission rate; and

transmitting said portion of said second frame at said second transmission rate into said shared-communications channel.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein said first transmission rate and said second transmission rate are different.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17 further comprising queuing a second portion of said second ~~frame, frame wherein the length of~~ said second portion ~~having a length is~~ less than said second frame length, said length ~~and is~~ based on said second transmission rate.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17 wherein said transmitting is performed in accordance with ~~the~~ IEEE 802.11 air interface protocol.

21. (New) An apparatus comprising:

means for storing a first description of a first frame wherein said description comprises:

(1) a frame length; and

(2) a first transmission rate;

means for receiving a first portion of said first frame, said first portion having a first length less than said frame length, said first length based on said first transmission rate;

means for queuing said first portion of said first frame;

means for transmitting said first portion of said first frame at said first transmission rate into a shared-communications channel; and

means for receiving a second portion of said first frame after said transmission of said first portion has started.

22. (New) The apparatus of claim 21 wherein said first description further comprises a second transmission rate and at least one form of modulation.

23. (New) The apparatus of claim 21 further comprising means for queuing said second portion of said first frame, said second portion having a second length less than said frame length, said second length based on said first transmission rate.

24. (New) The apparatus of claim 23 further comprising means for transmitting said second portion of said first frame at said first transmission rate into said shared-communications channel.

25. (New) The apparatus of claim 21 further comprising:
means for storing a second description of a second frame wherein said description comprises:

(1) a second frame length; and

(2) a second transmission rate; and

means for receiving a first portion of said second frame, said first portion having a second length less than said second frame length, said second length based on said second transmission rate.

26. (New) The apparatus of claim 25 further comprising means for queuing said first portion of said second frame.

27. (New) The apparatus of claim 26 further comprising means for transmitting said first portion of said second frame at said second transmission rate into said shared-communications channel.

28. (New) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein said first transmission rate and said second transmission rate are different.

29. (New) The apparatus of claim 21 wherein said means for transmitting operates in accordance with IEEE 802.11 air interface protocol.